

\$100K FOR NUDE KATE MIDDLETON STREET ART?

JOHNNY DEPP SURE HAS SOME EXPENSIVE TASTE. PAGE 18



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SERIOUSLY FUNNY

Interview. Chris Rock writes, directs and stars in "Top Five," a comedy that makes room for drama, plus a mess of stand-up giants. It's maybe the only film where Rosario Dawson is nearly as funny as Tracy Morgan. PAGE 13

Chris Rock directs, writes and stars in "Top Five," a semi-dramatic comedy that includes spots for many of his colleagues, including Kevin Hart and Tracy Morgan. / GETTY IMAGES & PARAMOUNT PICTURES

Does Mark Wahlberg deserve to be forgiven?

PAGE 04

Travel the world with Netflix's 'Marco Polo'

PAGE 14



Pats seek revenge against Dolphins

PAGE 21

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NEWS

Top 3

The best of Metro.us

- 1 Metro food blogger CiCi Li: What people around the world eat on Christmas
- 2 The secret winter wonderland of Pittsburgh
- 3 Two holiday recipes to try with your kids



On the go

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Should Marky Mark be granted clemency?

Conflict. The actor's bid for pardon has divided the area's Asian communities.

Leaders from the local Asian community are of two minds over actor Mark Wahlberg's bid for clemency.

Wahlberg's recent application for a pardon would wipe from his record a brutal, racially charged assault on two Vietnamese men that occurred in 1988.

"He has not reached out to our community and I think he should," said Binh Nguyen, the president of the Vietnamese-American Community of Massachusetts. "He should do that to prove that he really wants his record to be clean. It looked like he just wanted to file the application and move on to his business."

News of the Dorchester native's application for a pardon emerged last week; Wahlberg had filed it with the state's Board of Pardons in late November.

However, Nam Pham, executive director of the Dorchester-based nonprofit Vietaid, said he was open to Wahlberg being pardoned, citing the actor's charity work and the fact that the U.S. is a "country of second chances."

"If it would help him be a better person, if it would help him be a better father for his family, I would support it," Pham said. "He's a new person, according to what we've heard. He's a totally changed person. If each us of us would be more forgiving the world would be a much better



Model Rhea Durham and actor Mark Wahlberg attend "The Gambler" New York premiere. / WIREIMAGE

Quote

"That's the most alarming part of this story; the idea that someone who has this history of brutal violence and racism could become a cop."

Phan

place."

Dorchester, said Pham, is home to about 20,000 Vietnamese, which constitutes one-third of the state's Vietnamese population.

In 1988, Wahlberg, then 17, struck two men while trying to steal two cases of beer from a store on Dorchester Avenue.

Wahlberg wants his record cleared, reportedly to become a reserve police officer in Los Angeles. Wahlberg's conviction prevents him from owning and using a gun.



Visit **Metro.us** to read more about the ongoing Wahlberg crime saga.



DANNY McDONALD
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Massachusetts. Key lawmakers say ride-for-hire bill likely a 2015 topic

Gov. Deval Patrick's late-term push to regulate alternative taxi-services like Uber and Lyft may need an assist from the next governor as legislative leaders raise issues unaddressed by the administration's proposal, and top House and Senate Democrats

suggest action is unlikely before Patrick leaves office.

Patrick wants the state's Department of Public Utilities to regulate the popular transportation services.

Uber and Lyft, which allow users to book rides

in livery cars through their smartphones, have come under scrutiny in Massachusetts and around the country over public safety concerns, and the taxi industry opposes their ability to operate unregulated in cities like Boston. **SHNS**

Watch out



Emerson College
NICOLAUS CZARNECKI, METRO

Emerson warns students of cellphone robberies

College students in the Fens area are being targeted by cellphone thieves, Emerson College warned Thursday.

The college reportedly alerted students that Boston Police sent them a robbery bulletin noting that eight robberies have occurred since Nov. 13.

My Fox Boston reported that in each instance, a suspect on a bicycle rode by the victim, and grabbed their cellphone from their hand. No threats or injuries were reported.

The robberies lacked a particular pattern, and have not taken place during a specific time of day, according to the report. **METRO**

Disparity

Report highlights racial disparities in behavioral health

Latinos in Massachusetts are significantly less likely to access mental health treatment than blacks, whites or Asians, according to researchers who suggest underlying factors could contribute to racial disparities in behavioral health treatment.

Speaking Thursday to health care professionals at the Omni Parker House, Margarita Alegria, director of the Center on Multicultural Mental Health Research at Cambridge Health Alliance and co-author of a new report, recommended increasing the amount of substance abuse treatment, encouraging psychiatrists to accept Medicaid patients and allowing interstate professional licensure to increase competition. **SHNS**



Uber Boston team member Matt Marra shows off the app in the back seat of an Uber car.

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO



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Peek into the past. Time capsule from 1790s uncovered at the State House



Museum of Fine Arts employee Pam Hatchfield, center, works for hours on Thursday to chisel out a time capsule from a building stone of the Massachusetts State House. / NICOLAUS CZARNECKI, METRO

A time capsule first buried in 1795 has been unearthed at the State House.

State officials were looking at water leaks into the building's foundation earlier this week when the artifact was rediscovered. The capsule is thought to include materials placed in 1795 by Revolutionary War-era patriots Samuel Adams, then the state's governor, Paul Revere and William Scollay.

Working with a conservator from the Museum of Fine Arts (MFA), crews worked for hours Thursday to remove the box from the State House's historic cornerstone. The granite block weighs several hundred pounds.

Despite reports of some coins falling out of the box, it has yet to be opened. It is believed to be one of the oldest time capsules in Massachusetts.

The time capsule was originally buried in the old State House, near the State Street T stop. However, in 1855, during emergency repairs, it was found and moved to the legislature's current home on Beacon Hill. It is thought to contain coins dating from 1652 to 1855, an engraved silver plate and a title page from the Massachusetts Colony Records.

DANIEL McDONALD

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EVAN JONES/METRO

Speaking out for cheaper ride fare

Advocates for elderly and disabled MBTA riders voiced support at a MassDOT board meeting Thursday for a means-based fare structure which would allow them to receive a \$1 discount on trips under a new pilot program that will begin at least by July. Some 600 customers will be eligible for the six-month pilot, which will cost \$480,000, according to transit officials.

Health. Boston Medical Center tackles tuberculosis with \$21 million grant

It's a painful infection. You struggle to breathe. You cough, relentlessly, and sometimes you choke on your own blood.

Though tuberculosis has been nearly eliminated in the United States, doctors at Boston Medical Center are embarking on a seven-year, \$21 million research study funded by the National Institutes of Health to help identify new biomarkers to help diagnose and treat the sometimes fatal illness, which last year infected 9 million people worldwide.

They also will investigate if some people have an immunity to TB that enables them to carry the disease without showing symptoms.

Active tuberculosis is brought on by an inactive bacteria, which is present in 3 billion people — or about one third of the world's population. Those people are at risk for developing the dreadful symptoms of active tuberculosis, according to Dr. Jerrold Ellner, chief of Infectious Diseases at Boston Medical Center.

Only about one in 10 of those who carry inactive tuberculosis will become ill, Ellner said, but in poverty-stricken, densely populated countries like China and India where the infection runs rampant, that fraction has potentially devastating consequences.



A Boston EMS ambulance outside of Boston Medical Center. / NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

By the numbers

A total of 9,582 TB cases were reported in the United States in 2013, a 3.6% decline, from 2012.

- Since a resurgence that peaked in 1992, reported TB cases in the U.S. have declined.
- In 2013, 65% of reported TB cases in the U.S. occurred among foreign-born persons.
- TB killed 536 people in the U.S. in 2011, the most recent year for which data are available. That's a 69% drop since 1992.

Source: CDC

"People should be aware that it is a tremendous health problem in most of the world," said Ellner, the study's chief investigator. "As long as people are traveling between countries, there is a risk of them taking it back into their own country."

In 2013, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health confirmed 201 cases of active tuberculosis in the Bay State, a 65 percent drop from 2012. State health officials have not supplied tuberculosis data for 2014.

According to Ellner, poverty is also a significant risk factor.

"It is a vicious cycle," said Ellner. "During periods of poverty, there is more TB. People get sick, they can't work, and it makes them poorer."

MORGAN ROUSSEAU

Wal-Mart selling iPhone 6 for \$129 in discounting surge

New discounts.

Wal-Mart aims to drum up traffic two weeks before Christmas.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc., seeking to attract customers after the post-Thanksgiving rush, is selling Apple's iPhone 6 for as little as \$129, a reduction of \$50 from the retailer's usual price.

Starting this week, the company is offering that price when customers buy the 16-gigabyte model and sign up for two-year contracts from AT&T, Verizon Wireless or Sprint, according to a statement.

Less than 10 percent of Americans have completed their shopping for the holiday, the company said, citing the National Retail Federation.

Wal-Mart also is selling the iPhone 5S for \$49 with a contract, down from \$79, and



Stores are trying to get shoppers back in the door. / GETTY IMAGES

Larger screen

\$279

Wal-Mart is selling the larger-screen iPhone 6 Plus for as little as \$229, down from \$279.

Samsung's Galaxy S5 for \$79, compared with \$139. Even before the cuts, the prices were below retail levels.

The fresh wave of discounts reflects the fact that shoppers aren't as focused on one-time shopping events such as Black Friday, the company said.

Industry-wide, the long Black Friday weekend was a disappointment for retailers. The NRF estimated that sales declined 11 percent during the period.

BLOOMBERG



NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

Help Metro help Boston kids in need

Metro's annual toy drive is nearing its end, so we are asking loyal readers to join us in helping local children in need this holiday season. Those wishing to donate new toys to Heading Home, a local organization that aims to end homelessness in Greater Boston, may do so by visiting Metro.us and clicking on the "Tony's Metro Magic logo," which links to a secure Toysrus.com wish list.

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Oil resumes decline, falls toward \$64, nears five-year low

Stock. There are signs that ample supply will be more plentiful in 2015.

Oil resumed its downward move on Thursday, falling toward \$64 a barrel and within sight of a five-year low. Crude prices sank on Wednesday as OPEC forecast an increasing supply surplus in 2015, U.S. crude inventories unexpectedly rose and OPEC's most influential voice, Saudi Arabia's oil minister, shrugged off the need for an output cut.

Christopher Bellew, a senior oil broker at Jefferies in London, said the outlook remained bearish. "It would be unwise to say the market has marked the bottom," he said.

OPEC said demand for its crude in 2015 would fall to its



Quoted

"We may see some technical bounces, but it is too soon to speak of a sustainable price recovery."

Carsten Fritsch, analyst at Commerzbank, which on Thursday cut its 2015 Brent price forecast to \$73 a barrel from \$82

U.S. motorists get an early Christmas gift as prices fall. / REUTERS

lowest in more than a decade, indicating a large supply surplus in 2015 without OPEC output cuts or a slowdown in the U.S. shale boom.

"There's nothing the rest of OPEC or the world could do to pressure the Saudis," said Tariq Zahir, managing member at

Tyche Capital Advisors.

While low prices will discourage exploration and drilling in some places, he said, other producers who could still profit at lower prices may ramp up output to boost revenues through higher volume.

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Agency under fire. Chief admits CIA used 'abhorrent' methods on detainees



Brennan made an appeal to move on from the controversy over past CIA actions. / GETTY IMAGES

CIA Director John Brennan said on Thursday that some agency officers used "abhorrent" methods on detainees captured following the Sept. 11 attacks and said it was "unknowable" whether harsh interrogation techniques yielded useful intelligence.

With his agency under fire in the aftermath of a Senate report detailing the CIA's use of torture on detainees after the 2001 attacks, Brennan rejected the report's conclusion that the agency had deceived the

Quoted

"We know we have room to improve." Brennan

White House, Congress and the public about its interrogation program.

"Our reviews indicate that the detention and interrogation program produced useful intelligence that helped the United States thwart attack plans, capture terrorists and save lives," Brennan told a news con-

ference at the agency's Virginia headquarters.

"But let me be clear. We have not concluded that it was the use of EITs (enhanced interrogation techniques) within that program that allowed us to obtain useful information from detainees subjected to them," Brennan said.

"The cause-and-effect relationship between the use of EITs and useful information subsequently provided by the detainee is, in my view, unknowable," he added. **REUTERS**

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Can a smartwatch really improve your workout?

Sweat it out. We put Google's new Android Wear to the test.

Like most people, I answer emails after hours and sleep with my phone next to me, but the gym is the one place where I happily unplug. So when Google invited me to a workout class to test its new Android Wear smartwatch, I was curious. Would I have to respond to a work email mid-lunge? Text my friends through voice activation while doing a sprint? Here's what really happened and my verdict on whether buying a smartwatch is worth it.

How it works

To really make use of all its



Google incorporated both the Nexus 5 phone and the Android Wear smartwatch into the fitness class. / PROVIDED

functions, you need to sync the smartwatch with your phone. In this case, it meant ditching my iPhone for the Nexus 5, which I wore on an armband during my workout.

The class started with a cardio warm-up. We didn't

actively use the smartwatch for this portion of the class, but it was tracking my activity, such as the number of steps taken and heart rate, which was pretty cool to look at after the class.

To my surprise, the instruc-

tor didn't make us answer any emails or texts during the session. Instead, she showed us how to use the VimoFit app, which acts as your own virtual trainer by creating custom workouts based on your fitness goals. A virtual person shows you how to do each move, which was helpful for a visual learner like me. We used our smartphones for the trainer aspect of the app while the watch kept track of our activity levels to make sure we were reaching our fitness goals.

At the end of the class, the trainer showed us how Android Wear can track your sleep cycle by monitoring how many times you wake up during the night and how much REM sleep you get.



EMILY LAURENCE
@EmLaurence
emily.laurence@metro.us

Positives

Seeing exactly how hard and much I'm exercising in plain numbers is addictive and made me go out of my way to walk instead of taking the subway just to get my numbers up. You can also sync playlists to your watch and wear Bluetooth headphones. The GPS tracker can be helpful for runners and bikers.

Negatives

Having to rely on the smartphone for the VimoFit app is cumbersome. There also doesn't seem to be a way to turn off messaging during a workout if you still want to use the fitness aspects of the watch without being reachable.

Verdict

When it comes to using a smartwatch for fitness, it can be motivating to ensure you're living as healthy a lifestyle as possible. Considering I already take my phone to the gym to stream music, wearing a smartwatch doesn't seem like much of a leap.

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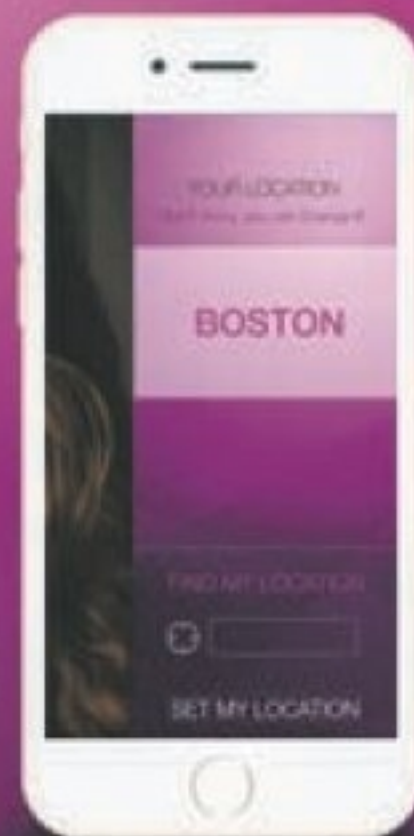
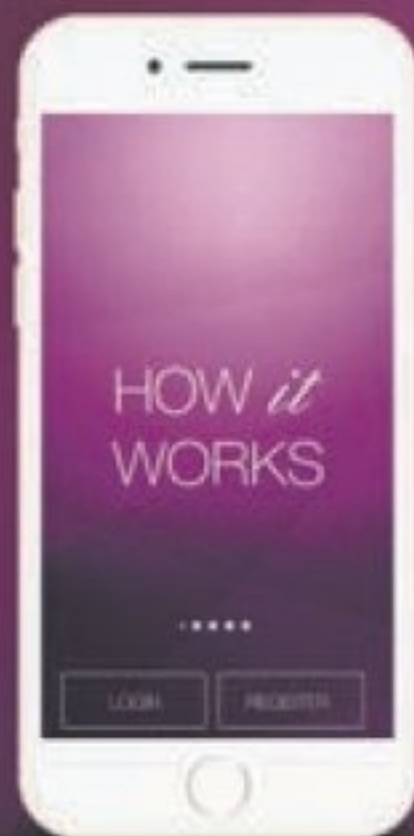


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Chris Rock: To the next level

Interview. The comic says he treated “Top Five,” his latest movie, just like his stand-up.

The usually political Chris Rock doesn’t talk about Ferguson or race or about politics at all when discussing his latest film, “Top Five.” The focus instead is on the movie, which he wrote and directed and in which he stars as a Rock-esque movie star getting close with a sharp-witted journo (Rosario Dawson).

Like a lot of stand-up comics, Rock hasn’t had a ton of luck with movies, and even the ones he’s directed himself in (“Head of State,” “I Think I Love My Wife”) haven’t fully utilized his considerable gifts. Yet “Top Five” shows a real leap forward and has been getting the kinds of notices that are usually reserved for his stand-up specials. Here’s what he had to say about a film that, even for him, feels very much like the next level.

MATT PRIGGE
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matt.prigge@metro.us



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Sherri Shepherd joins Chris Rock and Rosario Dawson in “Top Five.” / PARAMOUNT PICTURES

Stand-up guy:

“I made this movie just like my stand-up. I used to have a movie process and a stand-up process, and I’d say, ‘These are the jokes for the movie,’ then I’d have a whole other file for stand-up. Not this one. I workshoped it. The goal was to get a movie that felt like my stand-up.”

Trying not to be lazy:

“The worst movies tend to have the best people in them, because they aggressively suck. There’s lazy movies. Then there’s ‘Howard the Duck.’ I knew I was going to try, but luckily we didn’t suck.”

Drama is easy, comedy is hard:

“There’s nothing worse than a bad comedy. Drama, you get credit for completion. I like ‘Gone Girl’; you can make nine different version of ‘Gone Girl’ that work. But when you’re doing a comedy there’s kind of one version that works.”

For the love of rap:

“This is a movie with a bunch of characters who grew up on rap and we don’t question it. We don’t call it hip-hop; it’s just music. We treat it like any other music. In most movies they treat rap music or hip-hop music like it’s this new thing.”

Love is all around

Chris Rock’s cast on Chris Rock

“Top Five” makes room for scores of talent such as fellow comics and legends such as Ben Vereen and actors such as Rosario Dawson and Gabrielle Union. Here’s what they said about their director and his

experimental, collaborative methods.

Gabrielle Union: “He gave us his script; he gave us his baby. But he wasn’t like, ‘My baby is perfect, my baby’s testing off the charts.’ He doesn’t assume he has created the next ‘Schindler’s List.’ He’s saying, ‘I want to get there, please give me real feedback. I didn’t assemble a bunch of people to

just kiss my ass and tell me it’s amazing. Let’s work together and please give me notes so we can create magic.”

Sherri Shepherd: “He did what was in the script, then you kept going and kept going. You thought, ‘Is he going to say cut at any point?’ He let you go and go and go, and that’s when you found that magic.”

Rosario Dawson: “We’d be doing something really, really serious, and he’d say, ‘We need a joke right about here.’ He wouldn’t say at the beginning or end of a scene. He was like, ‘Right here we need something to lighten it up.’ That’s why I keep calling him a conductor. It was like music — he knew right when [a scene] needed to have something.”

Quoted

“I treated the editing like it was writing. It was like, ‘Let’s make music, let’s do something different.’”

Chris Rock



CHRIS ROCK
GETTY IMAGES

2

CULTURE



Real talk

But seriously

Lately, Chris Rock has been making the rounds, opening up about his thoughts on race in a country led by Barack Obama, about Michael Brown and Ferguson and about the allegations against Bill Cosby, who gets name-checked in “Top Five.”

In an interview with New York magazine, Rock told Frank Rich, “White people were crazy. Now they’re not as crazy.” He added, “To say Obama is progress is saying that he’s the first black person that is qualified to be president. That’s not black progress. That’s white progress. There’s been black people qualified to be president for hundreds of years.”

It’s very different for his kids, who, he tells Rich, are “encountering the nicest white people that America has ever produced. ... I drop my kids off and watch them in the school with all these mostly white kids, and I got to tell you, I drill them every day: ‘Did anything happen today? Did anybody say anything?’ They look at me like I am crazy.”

Now you know exactly where to find Marco (Polo!)

Interview. Lorenzo Richelmy brings the famed explorer to life in Netflix's new show.

If you only ever knew Marco Polo from the swimming pool game, you've been missing out. The Italian merchant spent over 20 years in Mongolia during the 13th century, meeting and advising the emperor Kublai Khan, making one of the first connections between the Western world and the East. Thanks to Netflix, he's getting the biopic treatment in an epic, multimillion-dollar series starring newcomer Lorenzo

Richelmy, an Italian actor who learned archery, martial arts, horseback riding and, notably, English, to take on the role.

Among all those skills, what was the hardest to pick up? Hmm, well, English. Definitely, it was English because the pressure for it was big. As an actor the language is like half of your job.

How long did it take to feel comfortable with English? Well, the time I had. [Laughs] I had seven weeks before we started shooting. Then the fact that we shot chronologically helped me a lot. At the beginning of the show, my English is different, my body is different

and then I kept training in both of them for the whole shoot. And then if you look at a frame from the last episode and a frame from the first one, they are two different guys.

Much of the shooting was done in Malaysia. Where in the country were you?



LORENZO RICHELMY
NETFLIX



"Marco Polo" premieres today on Netflix. / PHIL BRAY FOR NETFLIX

We were in the south near Singapore. We had these brand new Pinewood Studios, which were amazing — the biggest thing I've ever seen in my life. It was just a big theme park with 700 people from 27 countries

from all over the world, just creating and working every day. It was incredible. It was just massive.

How do you describe your version of Marco Polo?

My Marco Polo, he is of course curious about things. He's never satisfied. In this way he's a little bit like Kublai Khan. He has this quality where he's totally the first modern man. He was the first man to build

Reputation

Going swimming

As an Italian, do you find Polo's reputation to be different here in the States?

Yes. It's totally different. You have here the swimming pool game. In Italy, we know him as a big guy, but not so big. In China, he's a hero, a big hero. So it's beautiful to see how the different cultures have accepted this.

Had you heard of the swimming pool game before?

No. The first time I'd heard of it was from a German.

a bridge between East and West. I focused my job on the fact that he never judged. He watched these things that were totally different, and maybe evil things, and gross things, and he always finds a way to understand the reasons behind them. He's an open-minded guy and a fearless guy.



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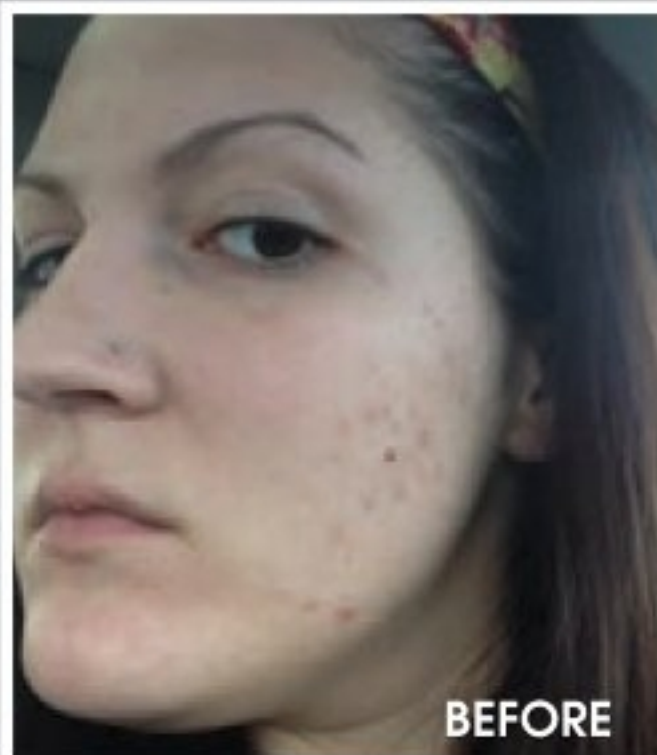
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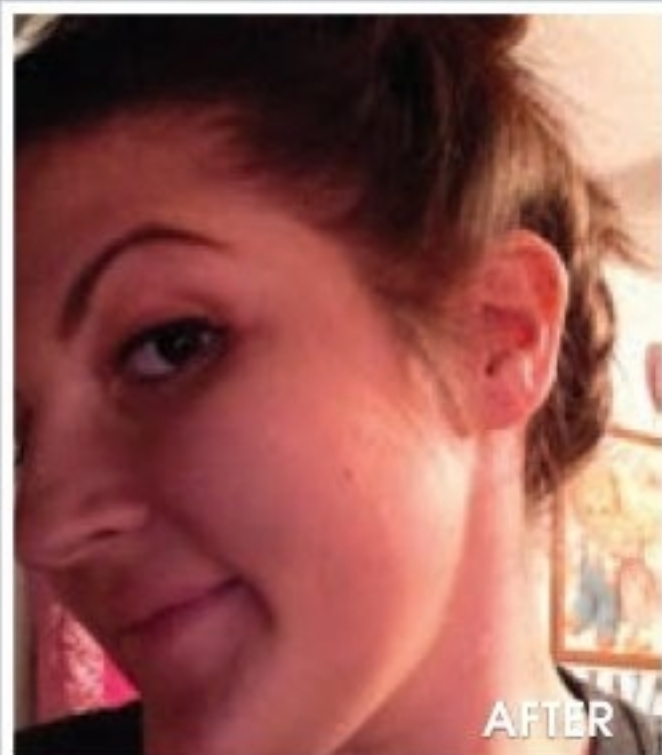
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TV watch list

COMEDY

'Cristela'

Cristela gets in the spirit of the season with her mother and her sister by taking part in their big Christmas tradition: making tamales. A tamale does sound pretty good right about now. **FRIDAY, 8:30 P.M., ABC**



Cristela should probably put her laptop away before she starts making tamales. / ABC

DOCUMENTARY

'White House Christmas 2014'

If you're curious what Christmas decorating for the White House entails, be sure to check this show out, which gives a top-to-bottom look at what's involved in decorating the rooms and the various gigantic Christmas trees. **SUNDAY, 8 P.M., HGTV**

DRAMA

'Once Upon a Time'

Alongside "The Blacklist," this is evidently the most popular show to watch on Netflix. But catch this live new episode, which sees Anna and Elsa returning home and Regina dealing with the fallout from what happened with the Snow Queen. **SUNDAY, 8 P.M., ABC**

REALITY

'The Real Housewives of Atlanta'

Cynthia and Nene continue to lock horns, despite their efforts to patch things up, and Phaedra tries to distract herself from her problems by focusing on work. **SUNDAY, 8 P.M., BRAVO**
LISA WEIDENFELD

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Compromises are key for atheist-religious couples

Respect. Communication about boundaries is essential.

The holidays can be particularly stressful for couples who don't share the same spiritual or religious views. Should an atheist attend midnight mass with the in-laws? Are Christmas trees or menorahs OK? Without clear expectations, getting through December with your nerves intact can be challenging.

"Everybody has to negotiate — neither partner can declare everything non-negotiable. That's not OK," says Dale McGowan, a longtime atheist and the author of the book "In



You have to decide when and where to compromise. / POLKA DOT

Faith and in Doubt." "What they have to do is pick and choose. Asking their partner to give up everything is not fair."

McGowan shares his thoughts about how couples can respect both of their belief systems and strengthen their

relationships in the process.

Should everyone attend services?

That depends. McGowan says every couple should talk about

their negotiables and non-negotiables. "My wife's extended family is quite religious and I go to church every year with my mother-in-law," explains McGowan, who says his wife was a Southern Baptist when they married 23 years ago. "For

me, going to church with her was a perfectly fine compromise and a way to honor a part of our family. That meant a lot to her."

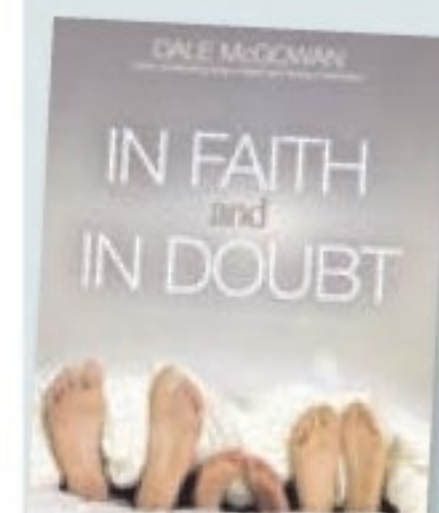
Some things can't be compromised

"If you have an atheist who had a painful separation from religion, it can be really difficult for someone to attend church," explains McGowan. "People have to respect that." If you or your partner feel like you absolutely cannot participate in religious activities, it's vital that you talk about it. "Maybe the family will go and they'll just explain that dad is going to stay home," McGowan says.

Reminder

Mutual respect is key

Expressing your true feelings is essential to the success of any relationship, says McGowan. "It's a question of respect. I hear people say, 'Sometimes I struggle with this because I can't respect what my partner believes.' But you don't have to agree on beliefs, what you do have to say is, 'I respect my partner.'"



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Johnny Depp a fan of naked Kate Middleton

Hopefully, Prince William and Kate Middleton's U.S. trip didn't involve a run-in with Johnny Depp. The star forked over more than \$100,000 for a pair of pieces by street artist Pegasus featuring a naked Middleton. One, which gained notoriety when Pegasus spray painted it on a wall in North London, features the royal wife cradling her pregnant stomach with a crown atop it, the logo for "Game of Thrones" stenciled underneath. Depp commissioned a second nude while at the London gallery show for the artist's work. "I knew Johnny was coming and wanted the two Kate Middleton works," Pegasus' manager, Leonard Villa, tells In Touch Weekly. "He was extremely charming and immediately bought the painting and put down an offer for the second one." Depp spent another \$40,000 on a Pegasus portrait of Queen Elizabeth II, though one can only hope she's more clothed than her granddaughter-in-law.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Keira Knightley is pregnant

It's been a big week for Keira Knightley. First she earns nominations from both SAG and the Golden Globes for her work alongside Benedict Cumberbatch in "The Imitation Game," and now this: The British actress and her husband, James Righton, are expecting their first child, according to Page Six. "Multiple sources" claim that the "Pride and Prejudice" and "Love Actually" star is more than three months pregnant during awards season — she's been abstaining from alcohol at events and opting for looser-fitting gowns. And Star magazine first jumped the gun on speculation last month, reporting that Knightley and her stylist were already working on some baby bump-appropriate awards season looks.

Chris Rock has been on something of a tear lately, making some pointed and perfectly worded observations about Hollywood, race issues in America and the like. But it's not all criticism for Rock. There are a few things he has genuine appreciation for, like Leonardo DiCaprio's lifestyle. As Rock tells Howard Stern during an interview: "I love the guy. He enjoys himself. If he's not doing a movie, he's 40 pounds more, with a fine motherf—er. With a beard and model. F— y'all. I'm eating cheeseburgers and f—ing fine bitches." The American dream, that.



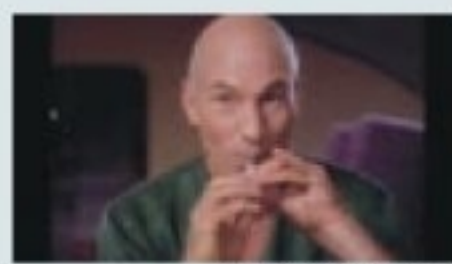
"F— Y'ALL. I'M EATING
CHEESEBURGERS AND
F—ING FINE BITCHES."

Chris Rock has nothing but admiration for Leonardo DiCaprio

Daily video

A 'Star Trek: The Next Generation' Christmas carol

'Tis the season, even for the nerds. Even if you're not a massive Trekkie, you'll get a kick out of this delightful edit that turns Jean-Luc Picard and



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crew into inadvertent carolers singing, "Make it so, make it so, make it so."

THE WORD

Ned Ehrbar takes on the world of gossip.

NED EHRBAR

@Nedrick
ned.ehrbar@metro.us



Benedict Cumberbatch trying to make nerds' brains explode

While debating the differences between his beloved "Sherlock" character and "Doctor Who"'s main alien on Chris Hardwicke's Nerdist podcast, Benedict Cumberbatch's choice of words is sure to get the fan-fiction writers out there all hot and bothered. "He talks fast and is clever. That is literally the only

bracket they share," Cumberbatch says of the two iconic British characters. "They've got different dress senses, different tastes in the sex of their partners." And there it is. While Cumberbatch more innocently meant that Holmes



is always aided by a male Dr. Watson (except on the U.S. version, "Elementary"), Doctor Who more commonly keeps a female assistant, though not always. Still, feel free to let your imagination run away with you.

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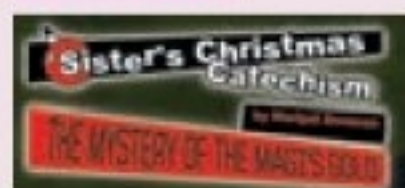
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PROVIDED

Lisie S. Orjuela:
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These paintings come from two series by Connecticut-based artist
Lisie S. Orjuela, "Grounding" and "Winged Buttress." Their starting
point is the concrete architecture of Catholic cathedrals, which Orjuela
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Buddhist ethics and contemplative spirituality. Figures of humans and
birds appear, suspended halfway into disappearing into — or perhaps
emerging from — the ether.

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IN THEATERS DECEMBER 25TH

Horoscope

♈ Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21. You will discover a new way to solve an old problem. Love and adventure are highlighted, so don't hesitate to involve your romantic interest in a challenging activity.

♊ Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20. It's likely that you will be confused about recent emotional happenings. Working on an enjoyable project will keep you from facing discord.

♊ Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18. Surprise everyone around you by making personal changes or adopting an interesting new way of doing things. Viewing life with optimism will bring positive results. Love is highlighted.

♋ Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20. Being vigilant while traveling will spare you any unnecessary setbacks or delays. Stick to the rules and take care of matters yourself. Don't trust others to do things for you.

♈ Aries | March 21-April 20. Love is in the air. Plan a romantic getaway or engage in social events geared toward meeting someone new. Travel will play a large part in your success.

♉ Taurus | April 21-May 21. You will have concerns with an older or younger person in your life. Finances may be stretched if you have taken on too many responsibilities or overspent on luxury items.

♊ Gemini | May 22-June 20. Don't take anyone for granted. Spend time reinforcing important relationships to ensure that everyone is heading in the same direction.

♋ Cancer | June 21-July 22. If you are currently dissatisfied with your professional life, check out vocations that appeal to you. Discuss your thoughts with an expert in your field of choice.

♊ Leo | July 23-Aug. 22. Take some time to let a loved one know how much you appreciate him or her. If you are currently unattached, get out and mingle. You are likely to meet someone who will play an important role in your future.

♊ Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22. Delays and setbacks will test your patience. Keeping your emotions in check will help you adapt to the changing circumstances and ride out any problems that arise.

♋ Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22. Adventure and excitement are calling you today. Group activities and social events will let others see your exuberant and cheerful side. Love will blossom.

♋ Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21. Scan help-wanted pages and online job postings, and arrange interviews. Update your resume to better represent what you have to offer.

EUGENIA LAST

Letters

Kardashian might just be right about her relationship with God

Re: 'Kim Kardashian considers weight gain God's punishment' (Metro, Dec. 11) To begin with, I think Kim Kardashian looks smashing. Who says you have to be thin to look good? Well, lots of people, actually, but I don't agree. Second, God has a personal relationship with ev-

erybody, whether they know it or not.

Think of Tevye in "Fiddler on the Roof." He did a lot of complaining, and as long as he didn't cross the line into out-and-out impiety — which he never did — God listened patiently. I frequently talk to God like that. I make no claims that He answers.

DANIEL CANTOR, VIA EMAIL

Good policing is possible

Every police situation is

different and must be handled and subsequently examined individually.

Having said that, the assertions by some, in and out of law enforcement, that Eric Garner is somehow culpable in his death would be laughable if not so blatantly disrespectful, both to his family and the NYPD itself.

Professional, well-meaning police officers routinely apprehend armed suspects across this country every day without incident and certainly without causing the death of the suspect.

This includes suspects of murder, rape and even hostage-taking.

What cannot be lost during the very real issue of race are the equally real issues of aggressive policing and use of excessive force that led to the death of a man allegedly selling loose cigarettes.

LARRY D FOWLER, VIA EMAIL

letters@metro.us



Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact info.

Sudoku: Easy and hard

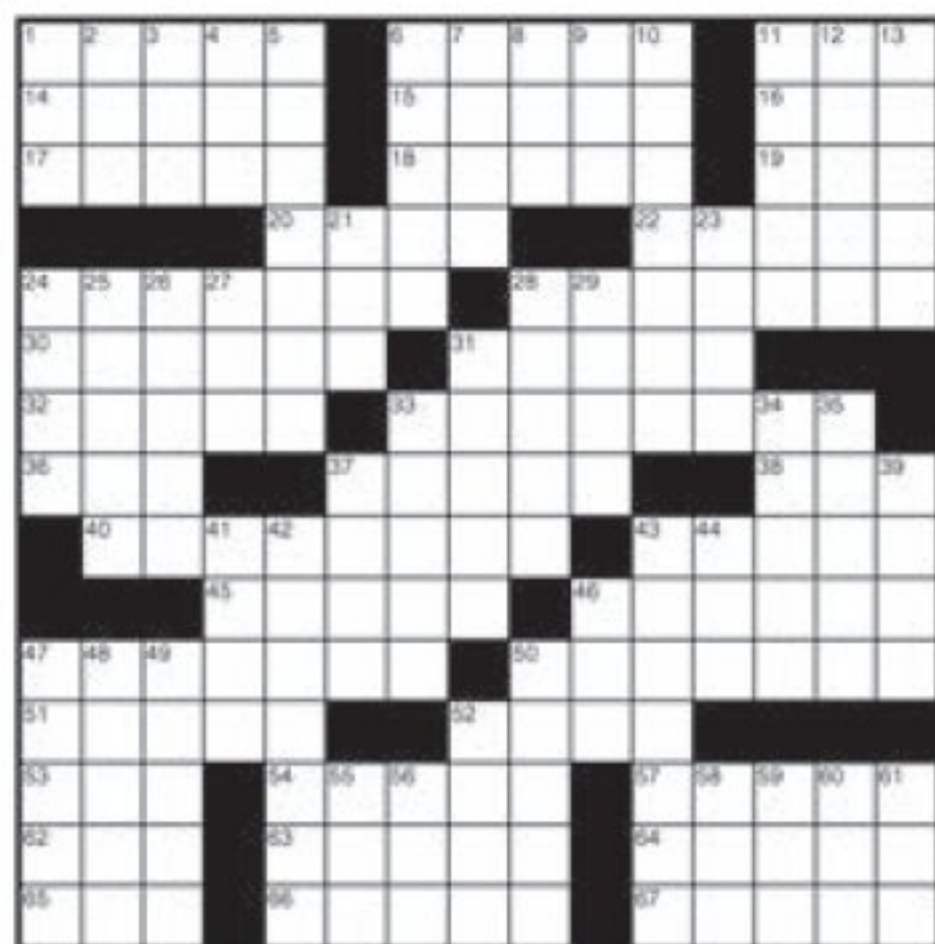
		2				5	3	
8							4	7
			2	1		9		8
9	4			2				
	2		4		1		9	
				3			2	4
1		8		5	6			
7	6							9
	5	3				1		

5		7				9		8
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			8	5				6
	4	8		9		5	2	
6				3	2			
7		2	9					
4		3			1			
9		6				2		4

How to play

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Crossword



Across

- 1 Graphic
- 6 Like a crevasse
- 11 Width of a cir.
- 14 Hagglng point
- 15 Singer — Judd
- 16 Peculiar
- 17 Delhi attire
- 18 Cancel
- 19 Kiki or Joey
- 20 Wife of Osiris
- 22 Not prohibited
- 24 Leisurely study
- 28 Chatty feline
- 30 Strains
- 31 Welsh dog
- 32 Garage jobs
- 33 Took part in a strike
- 36 Baseball stat
- 37 Tugs hard
- 38 Cratchit kid
- 40 Bucket passers
- 43 Of tender years
- 45 Winter woes
- 46 Cosmetic buy
- 47 Nonsense

50 Funny mistakes

- 51 Drinks for all
- 52 Icy precip
- 53 Get wrong
- 54 Customer, after the sale
- 57 Specks
- 62 Summer in Paris
- 63 Clan leader
- 64 Gullible
- 65 June honoree
- 66 Cornered (2 wds.)
- 67 Say hi

Down

- 1 CEO aides
- 2 A Gershwin
- 3 Caesar's man
- 4 Here, in Le Havre
- 5 Quits
- 6 Escargot
- 7 Neutral colors
- 8 Many many years

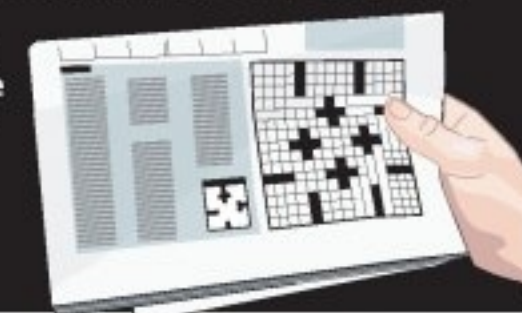


9 Down Under bird

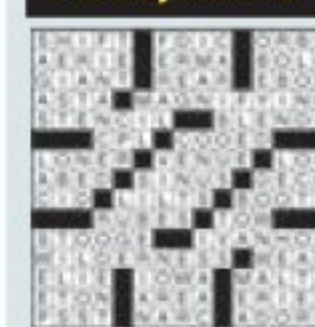
- 10 Loot
- 11 Be evasive
- 12 Glimmerings
- 13 Fashion's — Simpson
- 21 Stockholm carrier
- 23 Radiate
- 24 Volcano goddess
- 25 Bedroom community
- 26 Concrete reinforcer
- 27 "Where Eagles Dare" actress
- 28 Wind indicators
- 29 Vexes
- 31 Movies
- 33 Rice field
- 34 Piano exercise
- 35 Restaurant patron
- 37 Sturdy lock
- 39 Dugout VIPs
- 41 Desktop picture
- 42 Skier's transport
- 43 Caterwauling
- 44 It gives a hoot
- 46 Taro product

Visit us online at **Metro.us**.

Use your smartphone to find today's crossword answers! Download and open the Blippar app on your smartphone and hold the screen over the puzzle.



Thursday's answer



- 47 Dog show info
- 48 Ventricle neighbor
- 49 Emulated a siren
- 50 Strong and tough
- 52 Zeus' consort
- 55 Thai temple
- 56 Ballpoint point
- 58 Rowboat need
- 59 Affinity
- 60 Blvd.
- 61 Mount a gem

Patriots ready for 'Fins

NFL. The Patriots host the Dolphins, who are still battling for a spot in the AFC playoffs.

It's a hat and T-shirt game for the Patriots on Sunday (1 p.m., CBS) against the Miami Dolphins. With a win, the Patriots can clinch the AFC East for the 12th time under Bill Belichick, and sixth straight season. Ho hum, just another regular season in New England, right? Since 2001, the Patriots own a 65-18 (.783) record in regular-season AFC East games. That's the best record for any team against their respective division. The Jets have the AFC East's second-best record since 2001 at 39-45 (.464). Yes, the gap is that wide. And though the division titles keep on coming, they never get old for Tom Brady.

"Absolutely not," Brady told reporters. "I think we're trying to win every time we take the



Tom Brady had a paltry 69.7 QB rating in Week 1 against Miami. / GETTY IMAGES

field. Winning never gets old, I know that."

1 Protect '12'

The Dolphins actually possess one of the better defenses in the NFL, and although they're on the road, should provide some issues for Brady. We've seen in the past that Brady just isn't the same under pressure. That's where defensive end Cameron Wake comes in. Wake, who leads the Dolphins with 9.5 sacks this season, will make a point to disrupt Brady at all costs. Patriots tackle Sebastian Vollmer is going to have his hands full.

2 Target Tannehill

Unlike a lot of recent QBs the Pats have faced, Ryan Tannehill isn't exactly going to blow you away through the air. He's averaging 216 yards per game and has been labeled a "game manager" by some, which is often-times seen as a negative thing (though Bill Belichick used it as a compliment this week). The much-

improved Patriots secondary shouldn't have a huge problem limiting Tannehill's options, primarily consisting of Mike Wallace and rookie reception leader Jarvis Landry (63). That being said, Wallace did snag a touchdown over Darrelle Revis in Week 1, but that could just mean Revis is out for revenge this time.

3 Revenge on the mind

Both the Patriots and Dolphins look a little different now than they did when the Dolphins beat the Patriots 33-20 in Week 1. We remember the struggles New England went through to start the season, and a scoreless second half in Miami was the first sign. With so much on the line (the division title, holding onto home-field, payback) don't expect the Patriots to suffer their first series sweep to the Dolphins since 2000.

JAMES TOSCANO
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3

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MLB

Boston a pit stop for Cespedes

The October rumors that the Red Sox were unhappy with outfielder Yoenis Cespedes were more or less confirmed Thursday when the organization traded away the slugger after just 51 games in a Boston uniform.

A New York Daily News report came out just prior to Halloween that said, among other things, that Cespedes "marches to his own drum and the [Red Sox] coaches all hate him."



YOENIS CESPEDES PLAYED JUST 51 GAMES FOR THE RED SOX.
GETTY IMAGES

Issues with coaches may very well have played a factor in Boston's decision to ship Cespedes out of town this week, but the main reason is likely that the Red Sox had to start exporting outfielders in order to import starting arms. Prior to the swap with Detroit, the Sox had eight players for just three outfield spots with Cespedes, Shane Victorino, Mookie Betts, Allen Craig, Rusney Castillo, Hanley Ramirez, Jackie Bradley Jr. and Daniel Nava all in the mix.

Cespedes hit five home runs and drove in 33 runs in his brief Boston career. **MATT BURKE**

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Justin Masterson returns to the Red Sox organization after being traded away in July 2009. / GETTY IMAGES

Red Sox staff suddenly solid

MLB. Boston's front office acted quickly after missing out on its big fish target.

Red Sox general manager Ben Cherington's Plan B looks mighty good right now. So long as you're a fan of depth.

The Sox had to act quickly to rebuild their pitching rotation after Jon Lester signed with the Cubs on Wednesday, and act quickly they did. A little over 24 hours after the Sox lost out on Lester, they had three new legit starting pitchers in the fold with Justin Masterson, Rick Porcello and Wade Miley sliding into a rotation with holdovers Clay Buchholz and Joe Kelly.

WEEI.com reported Thursday that the Sox had an agreement with Masterson for

Red Sox rotation

Boston's projected 2015 staff:

- **Rick Porcello:** Just entering his prime, Porcello has won at least 10 games in each of his six MLB seasons.
- **Clay Buchholz:** Had a rough 2014, going 8-11 with a 5.34 ERA.
- **Justin Masterson:** Went 14-10 with a 3.45 ERA in 2013 with Cleveland before going just 7-9 last season.
- **Wade Miley:** The lefty won 16 games in 2012 but went just 8-12 last season.
- **Joe Kelly:** Went 4-2 with a 4.11 ERA in 2014 after being traded from St. Louis to Boston.

one-year, \$9.5 million. The 29-year-old Masterson has shown flashes of brilliance over the years, particularly early in the 2013 season with Cleveland when he got off to a 7-2 start with a 2.83 ERA. Masterson went 7-9 and had a 5.88 ERA last season, splitting time between Cleveland and St. Louis.

Porcello, though, appears to be the most promising pitcher added to the Sox rotation. Boston added the righty, who is coming off the best season of his young career with a 15-13 mark and 3.43 ERA in 2014, by trading away Yoenis Cespedes to Detroit. Pitcher Alex Wilson and minor-league hurler Gabe Speier were also sent to the Tigers as part of the Porcello deal.



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SPEND†:	GET:
\$50-74.99	\$10
\$75-99.99	\$15
\$100-149.99	\$20
\$150-199.99	\$30
\$200 & MORE	\$40



†HOW IT WORKS: For any single in-store transaction* of \$50 or more you make from now-12/14/14, we'll give you a \$10 (spend \$50-74.99), \$15 (spend \$75-99.99), \$20 (spend \$100-149.99), \$30 (spend \$150-199.99) or \$40 (spend \$200 or more) Macy's Money Reward Card at the register. *EXCLUDES THE FOLLOWING PURCHASES: gift cards, macys.com, Buy Online Pick up in-Store, services & fees, sales tax, macysed, furniture phone sales, lease depts, Espot, restaurants. USE YOUR MACY'S MONEY REWARD CARD from 12/16-12/18/14. MAY NOT BE: redeemed for cash, used to purchase Macy's gift cards or applied as payment or credit to your credit card account. For more information, go to macys.com/macysmoney



OPEN A MACY'S ACCOUNT FOR EXTRA 20% SAVINGS THE FIRST 2 DAYS, UP TO \$100, WITH MORE REWARDS TO COME. Macy's credit card is available subject to credit approval; new account savings valid the day your account is opened and the next day; excludes services, selected licensed departments, gift cards, restaurants, gourmet food & wine. The new account savings are limited to a total of \$100; application must qualify for immediate approval to receive extra savings; employees not eligible.